

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 EUR-08 RSC-01 /044 W

----- 024774

R 290640Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4586

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 7810

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ID, PO, AS

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE'S VIEWS

ON TIMOR

REF: CANBERRA 6228

1. AT YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION NOVEMBER 28, FONMIN WILLESEE RAISED SUBJECT OF TIMOR AND TOLD ME THAT HE REGRETTED THE WAY PM WHITLAM HAD DISCUSSED TIMOR WHEN HE SAW SUHARTO IN OCTOBER. AUSTRALIANS SHOULD TAKE A STRICTLY HANDS OFF ROLE WITH REGARD TO TIMOR AND CERTAINLY NOT ENCOURAGE THE INDONESIANS TO ACT IN A WAY THAT MIGHT BE CONTRARY TO THE WILL OF THE TIMORESE. FOR THIS REASON, WILLESEE ADDED, HE IS PLANNING TO HAVE A PLANTED QUESTION PUT TO HIM IN PARLIAMENT WHICH WILL PERMIT HIM TO SET FORTH THE AUSTRALIAN POSITION.

2. WHEN I ASKED HIM WHAT THAT POSITION WOULD BE, HE REPLIED THAT THE FUTURE OF TIMOR IS A MATTER TO BE DECIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WISHES OF THE TIMORESE. WILLESEE  
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THEN COMMENTED THAT PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BEST FOR THE

INDONESIANS TO TAKE OVER TIMOR SOME DAY, BUT HE THOUGHT  
THE PORTUGUESE COULD STAY ON THERE FOR SOME TIME AND THAT,  
THEREFORE, THERE WAS NO REASON FOR RUSHING THE PROBLEM.  
IN ANY CASE, IT HAD TO BE HANDLED CIRCUMSPECTLY IN A MANNER  
THAT GAVE EVIDENT REGARD TO THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF  
TIMOR. GREEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ANNEXATION, PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SITUATION, DEPENDENCY GOVERNMENT, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, PORTUGUESE TIMOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974CANBER07810  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740346-0388  
**From:** CANBERRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974114/aaaaacvy.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** CANBERRA 6228  
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**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
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**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2002  
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**Subject:** AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE'S VIEWS ON TIMOR  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ID, PO, AS, (WILLESEE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005